Help from Private Sector for Non-conventional Sources of Energy

1519. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to seek the help from the private sector for the production of energy from non-conventional sources; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) It is proposed to set up a Renewable Energy Development Fund and Corporation to promote projects pertaining to new and renewable sources of energy. The details of the Corporation are being worked out. It will be open to the Corporation to seek cooperation from all sectors including the private sector subject to the Government policy in force from time to time.

Taking over of State Electricity Boards

1520. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to take over the State Electricity Boards which fail to improve their performance within a prescribed period;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal; and

(c) the names of the State Electricity Boards whose performance is not upto the mark?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Plant Load Factor of Thermal Power Stations of the State Electricity Boards of Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal has been below the All-India average of 51.9 per cent in the current year.

Pricing Policy for Public Sector

1521. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state whether Government propose to formulate a long term pricing policy for public sector; and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): A committee to review policy for public enterprises has made recommendations regarding pricing policy for public sector. Their recommendations are under examination.

Improvement in Plant Load Factors

1522. SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any improvement in plant load factor of power generation units in various States in the last six months; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) what is the P.L.F. State-wise this month as against the figure for the last six months;

(c) what measures have been taken to improve the P.L.F. and cut down losses of Electricity Boards in various States; and

(d) what is the present position of losses and what is the number of Engineers who were found responsible for these losses?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir. The average plant load factor of thermal power stations in the country increased from 46.5 per cent in August, 1985 to 57.6 per cent in February, 1986.